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1/27/00 Patricia K. Powers
Date Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

BILLING-MEDEL, et al.

Serial No.: 09/049,695

Art Unit: 1642

Filing Date: March 27, 1998

Examiner: L. Sun-Hoffman

Title: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL FOR DETECTING
DISEASES OF THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to Office Action mailed on August 27, 1999 in the above-referenced application. Submitted herewith is a petition for a two-month extension of time and appropriate fee, making a response due on or before January 27, 2000. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 18-1648 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 which may be required by this paper.